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PUBLISHED FOR EMPLOYEES OF THE
SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF
YOUTH SERVICES

BULLETIN NO. 50

APRIL 18, 1974

*The mind likes a strange idea as
little as the body likes a strange
protein, and resists it with similar
energy. If we watch ourselves honestly,
we shall often find that we have begun
to argue against a new idea even before
it has been completely stated.*

...Wilfred Trotter

NEWS FROM OUR STATE DIRECTOR.

The Board of the Department of Youth Services met this month and the Visitation Report from the State Department of Education was presented by Dr. Ernest Carnes and his staff. Quite generally, the report was very favorable and laudatory. Dr. Carnes particularly noted the change that has come about over the past four years in that the educational services provided for children in our institutions is outstanding. He especially singled out the Willow Lane program and we were encouraged by the general positive nature of the report. There are certainly some areas in which we should improve, and recommendations were made for us to follow over the next year. Mr. Borders will make a response to the report at the next Board Meeting. Then we shall set about to try to meet the recommendations as presented by the Department of Education. We are deeply indebted to Dr. Carnes and his staff for this in depth study. A lot of our progress may be attributed to their constructive criticism and our desire to respond to same in a positive manner.

Plans for a temporary vocational educational building which will be located behind the warehouse area and adjacent to the Behavioral Modification Program were approved. We hope to get started in the construction of this building soon so that we shall be able to offer three new trade courses in our Career Development Program.

The Liability Bill which has been introduced in the legislature to protect state employees in tort suits is still pending. We are in hopes that this Bill will receive favorable support from the legislature. Our Board has authorized us to pursue coverage for our employees even if the Bill is not passed. We should be indebted to our Board for this kind of foresight and this kind of action which is being taken in the best interests of our staff.

This past month cooperative agreements were drawn up by the Richland County Family Court and the Richland County Manager whereby we agreed to detain temporarily female juveniles formerly housed in the Richland County Detention Center. The Board has approved of this temporary agreement, which was designed primarily to enable the Department of Corrections to utilize the 84-bed wing which was being used to house women and female juveniles at the Richland County Detention Center. The Department of Corrections has had a tremendous influx of new commitments to their Reception and Evaluation Center, and they are experiencing overcrowding even worse than we are. Though we have not seen ourselves in the

detention role at this point, in time it seemed the least we could do to assist another state agency which has received some of our transfers without flinching. This agreement will be reviewed in 60 days to see what efforts the Department of Corrections has been able to make to solve their space problem.

We are pleased to note that Hampton Cottage materials are becoming available now whereby the renovation of that unit may continue at the John G. Richards School. This will provide additional space for youngsters in our Intensive Care Program, and we are in hopes that it will alleviate some of our problems which now exist because of our own overcrowding at the John G. Richards Campus.

We are still in hopes that the runaway problems will become less and less as our programs improve. It looks like the rights of spring hit us this last week and with the rising of the sap, new horizons were sought outside the protective confines of our institutional milieu. As long as we run open training schools for students, we may expect some to run away, but we hope that this will become minimum in that we hope that we shall be able to convince the students that our only desire is to lead them toward a healthy and productive life in a free society.

NEWS FROM THE S. C. SCHOOL FOR BOYS.

Rambling in Recreation

On Saturday, March 16, a dance was held in our Recreation Room and the boys enjoyed their guests from Willow Lane School.

The Campus Honor Roll is looking forward this week to the North Carolina-South Carolina Senior Basketball Game at West Florence High School.

Our Intramural Basketball Program is coming to a close with undefeated Middleton Cottage leading the way.

We have initiated a weightlifting program on a regular basis and this is being greeted with much enthusiasm.

An Intra-Cottage Pool Tournament is underway and the first four winners are; Kenneth Small and Ronnie Jeffers - Calhoun Cottage; Allen Collins and Mike Green - Middleton Cottage.

Tryouts for a new play began last Wednesday evening and everyone is anxious to get in the "act". More on the progress of this dramatic effort next time.

Easter Sunday was a major success as the entire campus participated in an egg hunt and a variety of activities. There were prizes for all egg finders and the afternoon consisted of several events (tug-of-war, sack race, etc.), with the winner receiving cash prizes. The students all enjoyed cake, ice cream, punch, and candy to climax the day.

Academic School

The drama classes of the past two weeks have increased in size as the program on make-up proved to be a major attraction. Students put quite a scare into some teachers with their gray hair, simulated scars, and authentic looking cuts and stitches.

News from Chaplain

Thirty-five students enjoyed being in the Lent Service at Central Methodist

Church recently.

Miss Meredith Satterfield with the South Carolina Baptist Convention, Campus Ministry Department, Columbia, South Carolina, and Miss Laverne Brannen and Miss Deborah Barrett, students at Winthrop College, Rock Hill, South Carolina, and Baptist College, Charleston, South Carolina, visited our campus April 11, 1974. Miss Brannen plans to work with us this summer.

Three singing groups are scheduled to perform for our children at 3:00 p.m. Easter Sunday. We will have a Sunrise Service Easter morning.

Mr. Clarence Young is a patient in Room 675 - Florence General Hospital. We wish him a speedy recovery. Mr. Young is a Youth Counselor in Hampton Cottage.

Mr. Eugene Lovelace, a Campus Supervisor, is at home from a hospital in Marion, South Carolina, and hopes to be able to return to his work soon.

We are glad Mr. McCants, our Unit Coordinator, is back with us. He has had eye surgery in McLeod Hospital, Florence. We certainly hope that further surgery at some later date will restore his eyesight to a perfect condition.

We were delighted to have the Reverend Kelley Jenkins and "The Mighty Stars" perform for our children in religious service at 3:30 p.m. Sunday, April 7. Reverend Jenkins brought the parents of Mr. Willie Echols, one of our Youth Counselors, with him. Mrs. Echols had requested to come because she wanted to tell our boys she loved them and wanted them to have a good life. Mrs. Echols was well received and many of the boys have been asking when she would be back with us.

NEWS FROM JOHN G. RICHARDS SCHOOL.

Social Services Section

On April 2 and 3, Mr. Benton and Mrs. Weed attended workshops at Camp Kinard in Leesville, South Carolina. The workshops were concerned with the alcoholic and family therapy. The workshop was fruitful, in that, they learned treatment techniques that can be used within our institution.

We are proud to announce that Mr. James Bickerstaff has been promoted to a social worker position at John G. Richards School. He came to us with a wealth of experience from both the Behavior Modification Unit and our own campus in the role of a youth counselor. He is currently a co-therapist with Mr. Will Bruce in Phase I of our program.

Food Services Section

We would like to welcome Mrs. Bessie Harris and Mrs. Virginia Everett to our Food Service Staff and thank the other food service personnel for their cooperation in working well with our new employees.

Good luck to Mrs. Leola Jacobs who is leaving us on maternity leave April 21, 1974. Let's all hope with her that it's a boy. Mrs. Jacobs worked as Shift Leader with our staff.

We were very pleased to have Mrs. Norman E. Davis along with some of her staff members, visit our cafeteria. In return for her visit, Mr. Vesselles was invited to visit their school cafeteria for lunch which he expressed as being most enjoyable.

NEWS FROM THE YOUTH BUREAU DIVISION.

Caroselle

On March 29, three Caroselle residents, Ms. Johnson and Mr. Jim Sparger were guests of the Columbia College Alumni Association at a banquet honoring the late Lynn Nevius Sessions. All residents were guests at the production of "Royal Bambi" which followed the dinner. It was most enjoyable evening and a somewhat new experience for most of us.

This was one of the many good things that has grown out of Mr. Sparger's program and our interactions with community theater.

The following is a poem written by one of our residents and read by her for the P.T.A. at St. Andrews Junior High School:

IF YOU'RE EVER GOING TO LOVE ME

If you're ever going to love me
Love me now so I can know
All the sweet and tender feelings
Which from real affection flow.

Love me now while I am living
Do not wait 'til I am gone
And then chisel it in marble
Warm love words on ice cold stone.

If you've clear sweet thoughts about me
Why not whisper them to me
Don't you know 'twould make me happy
And as glad as glad can be.

If you wait 'til I am sleeping
Never to waken here again
There'll be walls of earth between us
And I couldn't hear you then.

If you knew someone was thirsting
For a drop of water sweet
Would you be so slow to bring it?
Would you step with laggard feet?

There are tender hearts all 'round us
Who are thirsting for our love
Why withhold from them what nature
Makes them crave all else above?

I won't need your kind caresses
When the grass grows o'er my face
I won't crave your love and kisses
In my last, low resting place.

So then if you love me any
If it's but a little bit
Let me know it now while living
So I can own and treasure it.

...Lynn Smith

Columbia Regional Office

We welcome Mr. Gene Sowell to our office as Regional Supervisor. Mr. Sowell received his B.S. Degree from Newberry College in 1954 and furthered his education at Auburn University, receiving certification as vocational rehabilitation evaluator. He was previously employed with S. C. Vocational Rehabilitation Department as Evaluation Specialist. Mr. Sowell comes to the Agency with an excellent supervisory background and a thorough knowledge of community programs and organizations.

Spartanburg Youth Bureau

The Spartanburg Youth Bureau has been invited by the Brotherhood Recreation Center to establish part-time offices and provide services in their new facility in Spartanburg. The Youth Bureau staff will devote two afternoons a week to provide referral or casework services as needed by the youth that utilizes the center.

Greenville Youth Bureau

The Greenville Youth Bureau extends a welcome to Mr. Bill Stanton as Supervisor for the Greenville Group Home. Mr. Stanton received a Master's Degree from University of S. C. and was previously employed as a social worker at S. C. School for Boys.

St. Luke's Center

The St. Luke's Invitational Basketball Tournament was held March 27-30, 1974. Eight community teams from the Waverly Section participated. The tournament was won by the St. Luke's Wolfpacks.

NEWS FROM THE CAMPUS POLICE SECTION.

Safety Factor

All personnel using Shivers Road are requested to observe the posted speed limit signs. Shivers Road is very narrow and is a safety hazard in itself. At certain spots on the road, there is not enough space for two cars to pass. With the many large trucks, farm equipment, school buses and the large amount of traffic using the road, all personnel are asked to be as courteous as possible and yield to the right. This practice may prevent an accident and save much unnecessary time in completing accident report and lost man-hours away from the job.

Congratulations to Sergeant Bertran Oliver, Supervisor of "D" Shift, and Miss Mildred Dykes who were married on March 21, 1974. Sergeant and Mrs. Oliver are now residing in Swansea, South Carolina.

NEWS FROM WILLOW LANE SCHOOL.

On March 9, 1974, Mrs. Sams attended a Drug Abuse Seminar at Capstone House, University of South Carolina. Dr. Steven R. Homel, Director of Institute of Human Behavior, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, was guest speaker for the program. He presented many new ideas on the teaching of drugs to adolescents. This seminar was truly informative, helpful and enjoyable.

A FENCE OR AN AMBULANCE

"Twas a dangerous cliff, as they freely confessed,
Though to walk near its crest was so pleasant;
But over its terrible edge there had slipped
A duke and full many a peasant.
So the people said something would have to be done,
But their projects did not at all tally;
Some said, "Put a fence around the edge of the cliff,"
Some, "An ambulance down in the valley."

But the cry for the ambulance carried the day,
For it spread through the neighboring city;
A fence may be useful or not, it is true,
But each heart became brimful of pity
For those who slipped over that dangerous cliff;
And the dwellers in highway and alley
Gave pounds or gave pence, not to put up a fence,
But an ambulance down in the valley.

For the cliff is all right, if you're careful," they said,
"And, if folks even slip and are dropping,
It isn't the slipping that hurts them so much,
As the shock down below when they're stopping."
So day after day, as these mishaps occurred,
Quick forth would these rescuers sally
To pick up the victims who fell off the cliff,
With their ambulance down in the valley.

Then an old sage remarked: "It's a marvel to me
That people give far more attention
To repairing results than to stopping the cause,
When they'd much better aim at prevention.
Let us stop at its source all this mischief," cried he,
"Come, neighbors and friends, let us rally;
If the cliff we will fence we might almost dispense
With the ambulance down in the valley."

"Oh, he's a fanatic," the others rejoined,
"Dispense with the ambulance? Never!
He'd dispense with all charities, too, if he could"
No! No! We'll support them forever.
Aren't we picking up folks just as fast as they fall?
And shall this man dictate to us? Shall he?
Why should people of sense stop to put up a fence,
While the ambulance works in the valley?"

But a sensible few, who are practical too,
Will not bear with such nonsense much longer;
They believe that prevention is better than cure,
And their party will soon be the stronger.
Encourage them then, with your purse, voice, and pen,
And while other philanthropists dally,
They will scorn all pretense and put up a stout fence
On the cliff that hangs over the valley.

Better guide well the young than reclaim them when old,
For the voice of true wisdom is calling,
"To rescue the fallen is good, but 'tis best
To prevent other people from falling."
Better close up the source of temptation and crime
Than deliver from dungeon or galley;
Better put a strong fence round the top of the cliff
Than an ambulance down in the valley.

.....Joseph Malins

BETTER SECRETARIES MEAN BETTER BUSINESS

April 21 - 27, 1974 has been proclaimed National Secretaries Week honoring secretaries nationwide, with April 24, 1974, being Secretaries Day. Extend a gesture of appreciation to your secretary for her assistance in promoting our agency.
